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EVALUATION

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

Laerz Airfield

ON [] PLACE OBTAINED [] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT []

DATE OBTAINED [] DATE PREPARED 30 April 1951

REFERENCES []

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) []

REMARKS []

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1. On 27 March 1951, a train of 12 heavy-duty flatcars, each loaded with one aircraft crate, was seen at Ellerholz (N 54/U 33) railroad station. The train had arrived on 26 March. The crates, each approximately 9 meters long, about 2.4 to 2.6 meters high and of the same width as the flatcars, were made of square lumber frames and plywood boards and were covered with roofing paper. There was a bulge projecting about 20 to 30 cm beyond the front side and another bulge at the rear but higher up. On the front side of each crate there was a small black inscription in Russian, the date "20 February 1951" was seen on five crates and the date "27 February 1951" on seven crates. [] 25X1
2. On 28 March, while passing the field, [] 25 MIG-15s parked along the taxiway in the southwest corner of the field. The aircraft were covered with tarpaulins. The tail of one plane which pointed to the road had a bulge on both wings about 20 to 30 cm from the fuselage. The bulges extended from the leading to the trailing edges of the wings. (2) Twelve aircraft crates were stored along the taxiway about 200 meters west of the flight control station. The fuselages of jet fighters were seen in three open crates. Six railroad tank cars were standing on the spur track of the field. [] 25X1
3. On 30 March, there was intensive flying although the weather was bad. There were occasional snowstorms and strong winds. The take-offs were made on the E-W runway. Flying in formations of five to seven planes was practiced. [] the planes of one formation lowered their landing gears. The main landing gear retracted inward and the nose wheel retracted forward. [] After lowering the gear a rectangular slot was seen in front of the nose wheel. [] 25X1
[] also observed that these jet fighters with swept wings had a vertical middle strut in the air intake and a metal rod tilting to the fore fitted on the right wing. [] two planes which took off in a formation of six jet aircraft. [] 25X1
[] Another formation of four jet planes which landed at the field [] 25X1
[] Three railroad tank cars were seen on the spur track, [] 25X1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. On 7 April, one twin-engine plane, eight single-engine aircraft, and 33 fighters were parked at the field. [REDACTED]

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5. On 7 April 1951, a train load of ten crates with MiG-15s, consigned to Unit [REDACTED] arrived at Laerz (N 54/U 33) airfield. The shipment came from Finow (N 53/V 08). [REDACTED]

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6. The Rus-2 radar set in Rechlin (N 54/U 33) was replaced by a Dumbo radar set. A set of Dumbo type was previously observed there. [REDACTED]

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Comments.

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- (1) The arrival of 12 crates was previously reported [REDACTED] The dates reported are probably the dates of packing or dispatch. [REDACTED]
- (2) Noteworthy is the fact that only one bulge was seen on each wing. The same observation was made on jet planes parked at the Neuruppin airfield. [REDACTED]
- (3) Previous information indicated that the MiG-15 retracts its nose wheel rearward. [REDACTED] the same observation from the Neuruppin airfield. [REDACTED] From the information that only one bulge exists on each wing and from previous information that four weapons are fitted in the nose it is believed possible that the fighter regiments stationed in Laerz and Neuruppin are equipped with aircraft type other than the MiG-15 previously seen there.
- (4) It is believed that a total of about 60 jet aircraft are stationed in Laerz. The planes belong to the two fighter regiments and a fighter division headquarters.
- (5) [REDACTED] at least 51 jet planes are stationed there. [REDACTED]
- (6) This indicates that 22 jet aircraft arrived in Laerz between 26 March and 7 April 1951. It is believed that the aircraft are not replacements but are intended to increase the number of planes assigned to the fighter regiments stationed in Laerz. Most of the aircraft shipments recently arrived from the U.S.S.R. were destined for Finow. From the information that the aircraft for Laerz came from Finow it has been concluded that jet aircraft arriving from the U.S.S.R. first go to Finow from where they are distributed to other airfields. [REDACTED]
- (7) The radar set belongs to the fighter division headquarters in Rechlin, the higher headquarters of the fighter regiments stationed in Laerz and Parchim.

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